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Information Directorate awards \$24.9M contract

by *Fran Crumb, Information Directorate*

ROME, N.Y.— The Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate has awarded a \$24.9 million contract to TASC Inc. of Reading, Mass., for development of enhanced technology for the Air Force's Air Mobility Command (AMC).

The five-year, indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract will provide support to bring the core capabilities of the Information for Global Reach (IFGR) program to the point of transition to the operational forces.

"TASC engineers will support research and development, as well as demonstrate advanced technology for AMC and other DoD customers," said 1st Lt. Benjamin B. Montgomery, deputy program manager in the Information Directorate's Distributed Information Systems Branch.

"AMC is seeking technology for enhanced command and control of its aircraft fleet," said Montgomery. "The eventual

goal is improved information flow, including in-transit visibility — the capability for networking to aircraft in flight to obtain updates and issue alerts over existing communications equipment."

The contract covers a full advanced technology demonstration (ATD) and the development of field evaluation units to be thoroughly tested and evaluated by AMC users. The ATD and field evaluation of IFGR capabilities will provide the final customer input, prior to a full-scale transition of the technology. Information for Global Reach is envisioned to give common worldwide wireless communication power to deployed and deploying forces in the field and in the air.

1st Lt. Christian D. Leimkuehler of the directorate's Contracting Division negotiated the TASC agreement. @